

## KEEN APPRECIATION IS SHOWN AT OPERA

Discriminating Audience  
Hears Production of  
Verdi's "Aida."

PRINCIPALS PROVE  
MOST COMPETENT

Chorus and Orchestra Able Co-  
operators In Performance By  
Aborn English Company.

A representative audience filled the New National Theater last night and applauded to the echo the excellent work of the Aborn English Opera Company in "Aida," Verdi's intensely dramatic and colorful Oriental opera.

A keen discrimination marked the judgment of the audience who were held from the first note to the last by the compelling and convincing work on the stage. A feature of the evening was the spontaneous and brilliant "sh-sh-sh" which perpetually put a stop to the indiscriminate and annoying hand clapping with which a few over enthusiastic hearers essayed to express their approval even though they did break the continuity of the performance.

And by that same token, this was but one of many signs which evidence the fact that grand opera adequately presented at prices within the reach of the average purse has a place to fill in the life of the community. Indeed not in many a day has an audience so thoroughly displayed its intelligence as that at the New National last evening. Drawn to the theater through sheer love of music they brooked no heedless interruptions of their enjoyment.

Rarely does one hear such a satisfactory performance. The principals without exception filled their roles most acceptably, the chorus, which is splendidly intelligent and mobile, contributed mightily to the presentation, while the orchestra under the skilled hand of Mr. Nicolaus conducted the beauties of a fascinating orchestral score.

Composed on a national Egyptian theme at the request of the Khedive of Egypt, "Aida" received its first presentation at the Cairo Opera House during the festivities incident to the opening of the Suez canal in 1871.

### Story of the Opera.

The scene is laid at Memphis and Thebes in the reign of the Pharaohs.

Aida, the daughter of Amonasro, King of Ethiopia, had fallen a prisoner into the hands of the Egyptians. She was taken to Memphis, and given as a slave to Amneris, the daughter of the Egyptian ruler, captured by her grace and beauty, took her under her wing as a friend and companion. While in bondage, Radames, a young captain of the King's guard, falls in love with her, and his passion is warmly returned by Aida. Amneris herself is deeply in love with the youthful warrior. She suspects, however, that she has a rival in her bondmaid, and swears vengeance if this should be true. The opening incidents set forth these facts, and further, the choice of Radames as leader of an expedition against the Ethiopians, who have invaded the land and invested Thebes.

In the second act Amneris wrests from Aida the secret of her love for Radames. The latter returns to Memphis victorious, laden with spoils and bringing many a prisoner. Among the latter is Amonasro, Aida's father, disguised as an officer. Radames asks of the King that all the prisoners be set free. This is granted, and all are released with the exception of Amonasro. As a reward for his services the King then gives Radames the hand of his daughter, Amneris.

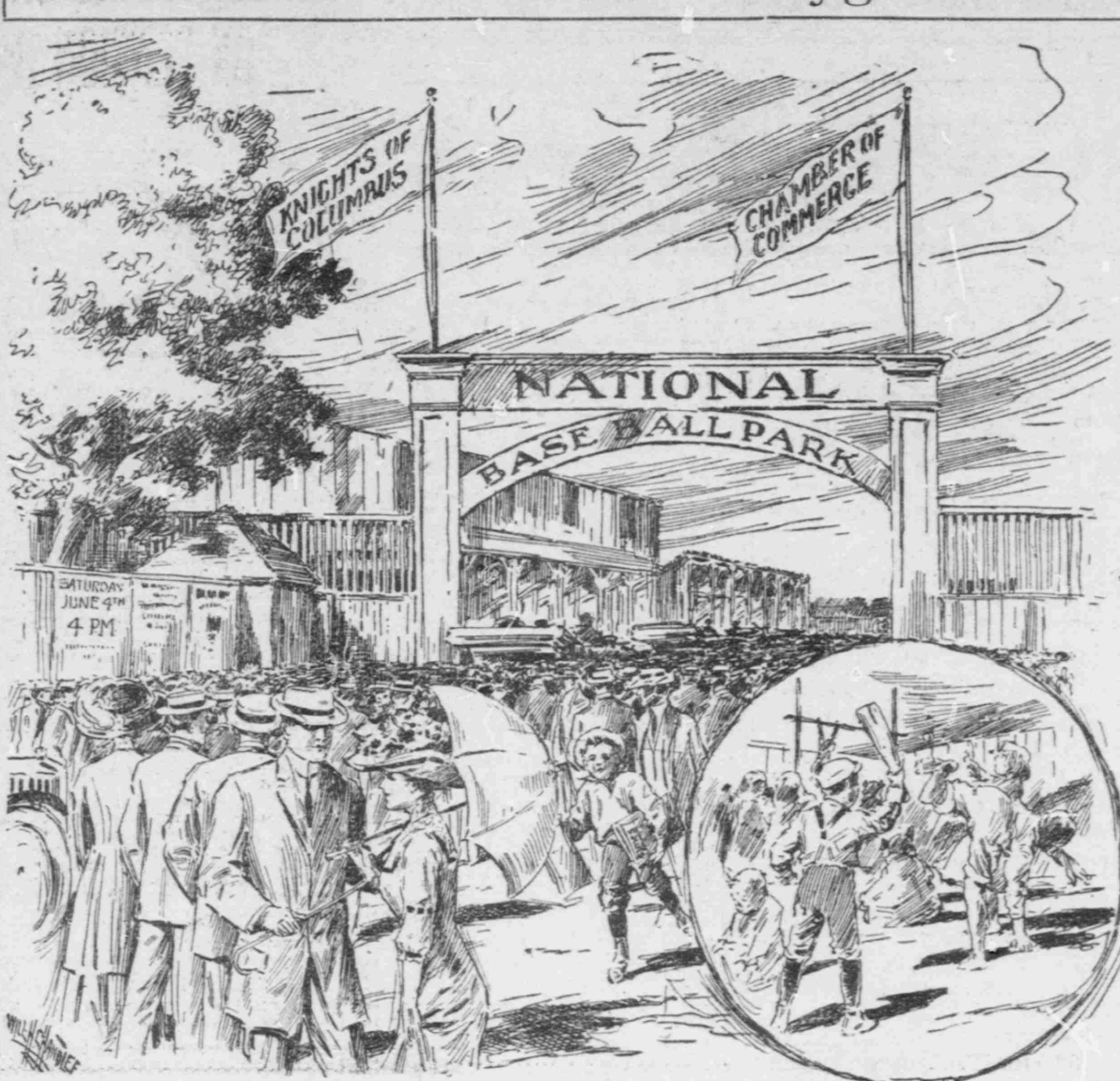
In the third act the marriage is to be celebrated. Radames is to be crowned in love with Aida, and the maiden urged on by Amonasro, seeks to persuade him to flee to Ethiopia and turn his sword against his native land. Radames, without consenting to treachery, listens, and resolves to flee with Aida. They are about to take to flight when Radames, the high priest, and Amneris, who have overheard the lovers, appear. Aida and Amonasro escape. Radames surrenders himself to meet his fate.

In the fourth act Radames is tried on a charge of treason and is condemned by the sacred council to be buried alive. Amneris visits him and promises to secure his pardon from the King if he will consent to renounce Aida forever. Radames refuses. The final picture shows the interior of the Temple of Vulcan, and below it the vault in which Radames is condemned to die, entombed alive by the priests. As the stone is sealed over his head Radames discovers Aida at his side. She has contrived to enter the tomb, and proves her constancy by sharing with her loved his awful fate.

Paula Braendle as "Aida."

As Aida, Paula Braendle satisfactorily interpreted a role which has been carried by some of the greatest singers on the operatic stage. Keenly intelligent, alert to the histrionic requirements of the part and possessed of a rich, full

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voice, beautifully delivered, Miss Braendle deserved the constant encouragement which her work received. As Amneris, Miss Mildred Rogers did a much better piece of work than her Aquena, the role fitting her to a "T" and giving her ample opportunity for the exploitation of her rich contralto voice and her more than intelligent conception of the acting requirements. Eugenio Battain, whose resonant tenor voice met every demand of the exacting role he had to carry, made a very convincing Radames. Alexander Bevan brought a commanding presence and a well-trained voice to the role of Ramfis, and Charles H. Bowers gave a well-conceived presentation of Amonasro.

Miss Everman's beautiful voice was heard to fine effect in the role of High Priestess, and William Schuster made an acceptable King.

The stage management incidentally contributed its quota to the general excellence. Smoothness and precision marked the onward progress of the several scenes which, pictorially, were effective to a degree.

Aida will hold the boards at the New National for the remainder of the week, being followed next week by Bizet's "Carmen."

### AGE IS ATTRIBUTED TO DRINKING WATER

PANA, Ill., June 2.—Dr. Linn, 107 years old, observed his birthday by entertaining a large number of friends at his home, south of Pana. Many old-time residents of this vicinity testify to the fact that "Doc" Linn was an old man when they were in their prime.

He was born in Ohio and served as surgeon through the war. For years he peddled medicine of his own make over the country in a wagon, and at that time his beard was white. Yearly he has celebrated his birthday with entertaining some old war veterans, nineteen being present this time.

His longevity, he said, is due to drinking water from a spring near his home.

### JACK JOUETT'S RIDE TOLD OF ON TABLET

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., June 2.—A bronze tablet to commemorate the heroic ride of Jack Jouett from Louisa Court-house to Charlottesville to warn Governor Jefferson and the Virginia Assembly of the approach of Tarleton, the British raider, was unveiled at Red-Lands Club yesterday afternoon. The memorial was presented by the Virginia Antiquities Society and the tablet has been affixed to an outer wall of the Red-Lands Club house.

Prof. Richard Heath Dabney, of the University of Virginia, made the presentation speech and Judge R. T. W. Duke, Jr., accepted the gift in the name of the club.

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## NATIVE FILIPINOS BECOME PHYSICIANS

Are Classed Among Bright-  
est Students Chicago Col-  
lege Ever Had.

CHICAGO, June 2.—Seven of the brightest students who ever graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons are Filipinos. Their expenses were paid by the Philippine government, the tuition is free. They will get their diplomas next Tuesday.

They are Mariano Tolentino, Jose P. Bantug, Maceline M. Gallardo, Gervasio Santos, Carleito M. Reyes, Daniel de la Paz, and Manuel D. Foronda. They are the first graduates of more than 200 Filipinos who are being put through American medical schools by the Philippine bureau of health.

All but one will sail for home immediately after commencement to enter at once into active work as physicians. Daniel de la Paz, at twenty-two, has received a special appointment to take a post-graduate course at the Harvard Medical School.

The young Filipinos have been model students in every respect. Although the oldest of them, Dr. Manuel D. Foronda, is only twenty-four, they have held their own with American students averaging two years older, and their marks have been high.

Dr. Foronda was the class artist for 1910. They have not been involved in the pranks and rushes of their American classmates. They are advocates of Philippine independence.

## FIVE HUNDRED MEN RETURN TO WORK

First Break In Ranks of Striking  
Miners In Wilkesbarre  
District.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., June 2.—The first break in the strike of the 12,000 mine workers in this vicinity occurred today when 500 men returned to work at the Lacakawanna colliery of the Temple Coal and Iron Company.

At other mines strikers' pickets drove back men who wanted to go to work. The Pennsylvania Coal Company today swore in a force of special deputies to protect workmen.

## ELEVATORS NEEDED AT UNION STATION

Commissioners Approve Bill of  
Slayden to Require Such  
Service.

In the opinion of the Commissioners the Union Station should have a passenger elevator service. The board today gave its approval to the bill recently introduced by Representative Slayden to require the Washington Terminal Company to install and maintain passenger elevators.

Such a service, they say, would be of convenience to the public. There are several freight elevators from the tracks to the main floor, and the installation of passenger elevators, it is said, would be entirely practicable.

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